

2.9742B
A878
c.2

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SELECTMEN, TREASURER
COLLECTOR,

AND
Superintending School Committee

OF THE
TOWN OF ATKINSON, N. H.,
For the Year Ending March 1st, 1886.

HAVERHILL, MASS.
MITCHELL & HOYT, STEAM PRINTERS.
1886.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SELECTMEN, TREASURER
COLLECTOR,
AND
Superintending School Committee
OF THE
TOWN OF ATKINSON, N. H.,
For the Year Ending March 1st, 1886.

HAVERHILL, MASS.
MITCHELL & HOYT, STEAM PRINTERS.
1886.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

VALUATION OF THE TOWN, APRIL 1, 1885.

Real estate, value,		\$246,818 00
Number of polls, 132.	Value. .	13,200 00
“ horses, 111.	“	7,565 00
“ oxen, 16.	“	1,020 00
“ cows, 387.	“	10,840 00
“ other neat stock, 36.	“	665 00
“ sheep, 5.	“	20 00
“ hogs, 21,	“	200 00
“ carriages, 19,	“	1,310 00
Stock in public funds,		11,000 00
Money on hand and at interest,		12,835 00
Stock in trade,		5,102 00
Mills, value,		700 00
Total valuation,		\$311,275 00

On which valuation the Selectmen have assessed the following amount:

State tax,	\$628 00
County “	777 76
Town “	800 00
School “	549 50
Percentage,	108 47
Non-resident highway tax,	157 04
Dog tax,	43 00
Total amount in the Collector's warrant,	\$3,063 77

The Selectmen have received and paid into the treasury the following sums :

For choice of lots in Cemetery,	\$6 00
State railroad tax,	57 60
Savings bank tax,	77 98
Literary fund,	44 53
Bounties from State,	16 30
	<hr/>
	\$202 41

The Selectmen have given orders on the Treasurer as follows :

SCHOOLS.

District No. 1, Samuel Smith, Jr.,	\$140 00
“ “ 2, Walter A. Smith,	140 00
“ “ 3, Herman Noyes,	140 00
“ “ 4, J. W. Pettengill,	140 00
“ “ 5, John Little,	140 00
Conley's school tax,	2 05
	<hr/>
	\$702 05

BRIDGES.

Daniel W. Goodnow, near W. B. Little's,	\$96 86
John W. S. Cook, “ John Pettengill,	21 65
John Little, “ Daniel Hitchcock,	13 87
Zimri Bragdon, “ Albert Little's,	7 00
Town of Salem, “ Michael Cullen,	13 16
	<hr/>
	\$152 54

NON-RESIDENT HIGHWAY TAX AND OTHER MONEY
EXPENDED ON THE HIGHWAY.

E. W. Stickney, District No. 1,	\$13 11
John A McNeil, " " 4,	9 18
W. F. Knight, " " 5,	4 80
John Little, " " 8,	13 20
N. H. Russell, " " 9,	28 75
H. N. Sawyer, " " 10,	56 05
J. W. S. Cook, " " 11.	52 12
L. B. Gove, " " 12,	2 50
F. W. Emerson, " " 10, (1884),	5 62
	<hr/> \$185 33

SNOW BILLS.

F. W. Emerson, (1884),	\$7 47
J. W. S Cook, "	4 40
Zimri Bragdon,	1 65
L. B. Gove, (1884),	3 50
	<hr/> \$17 02

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Sewell F. Noyes, (1884),	\$1 09
Michael Birmingham, "	92
Robert Birmingham, "	92
Oliver Higgins, "	86
Oren Hall, 1885,	92
Daniel K. Stickney, " dog tax,	1 00
	<hr/> \$5 71

MISCELLANEOUS.

Stationery, etc.,	\$3 64
Mitchell & Hoyt, Reports,	18 00
Bounty on woodchucks,	16 30
Giles Merrill, rent of hall,	30 00
J. I. Wright, ringing bell,	27 80
John Little, watering trough,	3 00
G. P. Dow, " "	3 00
S. C. P. Trefry, transient poor,	1 25
Gilman Greenough, paying State and County tax,	1 50
	<hr/>
	\$104 49

TOWN OFFICERS.

George E. Emerson, Superintending School Committee,	\$20 00
Samuel B. Mason, Town Clerk,	13 00
Gilman Greenough, Treasurer,	15 00
W. B. Wason, Collector,	37 12
Estate of Charles Fernald, services as Collector,	12 57
Samuel N. Little, Selectman,	22 00
S. C. P. Trefry, " "	23 00
Edward N. Greenough, " "	25 75
	<hr/>
	\$168 44

RECAPITULATION.

Amount in Collector's warrant,	\$3,063 77	
" received from other sources,	202 41	
	<hr/>	\$3,266 18
Paid on account of schools,	\$702 05	
" " bridges,	152 54	
" " repairs of highways,	185 33	
" " snow bills,	17 02	
" " abatement of taxes,	5 71	
" " miscellaneous expenses,	104 49	
" " town officers,	168 44	
" " State tax by Treasurer,	628 00	
" " County " "	777 76	
	<hr/>	\$2,741 34
Leaving a balance in favor of the town of		524 84
EDWARD N. GREENOUGH,	} Selectmen of Atkinson.	
STEPHEN C. P. TREFRY,		
SAMUEL N. LITTLE,		

The Selectmen report for the late Charles Fernald (Collector), as follows:

Amount in the warrant,	\$3,063 77	
By receipts of Treasurer,	589 06	
Balance uncollected,		\$2,474 71

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

The Collector charges himself with	\$2,474 71
And credits himself	
By receipts of Treasurer,	\$2,275 24
Balance in my hands (uncollected),	\$199 47

W. B. WASON, Collector.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer charges himself with:

Cash on hand March 1, 1885,	\$106 84	
" received from State for bounties,	34 10	
" " " " railroad tax,	57 60	
" " " " savings bank tax,	77 98	
" " " " literary fund,	44 53	
" " " sale of cemetery lots,	6 00	
" " " taxes of 1885, paid Treasurer,	29 44	
" " " Collector of 1882,	1 50	
" " " " Fernald, 1884,	279 31	
" " " " Wason, 1884,	31 22	
" " " " Fernald, 1885,	559 62	
" " " " Wason, 1885,	2,275 24	
		\$3,503 38

He credits himself as follows :

By paying State tax,	\$628 00	
" County tax,	777 76	
" Selectmen's orders,	1,337 09	
" town notes,	600 00	
" interest on notes,	40 00	
		\$3,382 85
Cash in hands of Treasurer,		120 53

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

TOWN LIABILITIES.

Amount due on town note,	\$400 00
--------------------------	----------

ASSETS.

Due from taxes of 1882,	\$14 27	
" " 1884,	43 59	
" " 1885,	199 47	
Cash in Treasury,	120 53	
		\$377 86
Balance against the town,		22 14
Town debt reduced the past year,		483 33

GILMAN GREENOUGH, Treasurer.

SCHOOL REPORT.

In presenting to the citizens of Atkinson the report of the condition of their public schools, for the year ending March 1, 1886, I will say at the outset that as much has been accomplished as could be reasonably expected, considering the ways and means of managing and supporting them. As it is much easier to censure than to approve, so it is the general tendency to look for better results in our schools than we ought. And especially is this true of those among us who seldom or never visit, and therefore know but little about them.

Not believing in publishing all the imperfections of human nature, for many of which it is not in the least degree responsible, I will depart from the somewhat too general custom, and, avoiding both flattery and useless censure, confine myself strictly to facts. For, too frequently does it happen, that any and all failings of a teacher are discussed again and again until threadbare, so that, well-known as these are, it would seem to be grievously overdoing the thing to proclaim them again through this report. This being the case, I deem it no more than just to speak of a few of the many good results of our common schools.

In general, I can say, that we have reasons to congratulate ourselves on having secured for the past year the services of a very efficient corps of teachers. More than this, I am satisfied that they all labored patiently,

faithfully, and conscientiously doing for the schools all that their ability and the pupil's ability would admit of. As we should expect, there was a difference in the appearance of each school, just as there is a difference in the disposition of teachers; for the school is the material which the teacher is moulding, and day by day she imparts to it something of her own character.

In my several visits to the schools I have not been disappointed in their appearance, for I did not have great expectations from them, ungraded and small as most of them are. In three of the schools vocal music was taught, assisted in one by instrumental, both being very pleasant features among the other exercises.

In some of the schools I found readers already distinguished, students in geography who, I feel sure, could travel without getting lost. There were also mathematicians who could not be deceived, either with figures alone or combined with letters. So I might mention many other excellent qualities as exhibited in the different pupils.

As to discipline, I can say, that on the whole, it was very good. There has been no trouble worthy of mention from insubordination on the part of the pupils, except in one instance; and this case was very speedily adjusted. For the parents did the best possible thing under the circumstances; which was the detention at home of the cause of the difficulty. Each teacher had her own method of governing pupils. One controlled by kindness and gentleness; so winning their goodwill and at the same time good conduct. Another, full of energy and zeal, by keeping them so busy that they had no time for mischief. One controlled by steady, quiet dignity; another by firmness and decision. And so but little corporal punishment was necessary.

It is said of the late Hon. John D. Philbrick, that while head-master of one of the largest schools in Boston, in which were seven or eight hundred pupils, not a mark or mutilation of any kind could be seen on the school building, furniture, or fence enclosing the yard. On being asked how this was possible, he said, "By creating a strong public sentiment in favor of the preservation of school property." If the teachers of this town had been supported, in years gone by, with a public sentiment of this sort, we should now have buildings more worthy the name of school houses, in Districts 1 and 4. However, we can take courage from the fact that the school houses in the other three districts are being tolerably well preserved. I know that the teachers would not be offended if the school houses should be furnished with a few more chairs, though uncushioned; also wall maps and globes.

In the opinion of your committee, the Legislature of this State has recently passed two very excellent laws; for which it ought to receive the thanks of all interested in the welfare of public schools. I refer to the law passed in 1883, with which you are all familiar, which provides that physiology and hygiene, including special reference to the effects of alcoholic stimulants and narcotics upon the human system, shall be prescribed in the schools sufficiently advanced. The other law, passed by the last Legislature, provides that the division of towns into school districts, heretofore existing, is hereby abolished, and each town hereafter shall be constituted a single district for school purposes. The district system may be re-established, however, after five years, by a majority vote of the town. The benefits which must result from the strict enforcement of the first cited law are evident to all. During

the past year all our teachers have devoted some time to this subject, and, if the same thing is done every year, we shall soon be rid of the monster evil resulting from the use of alcohol, opium, and tobacco.

Some of the advantages of the other law may be mentioned. A school board of three members will be chosen at the first election, to serve, respectively, one, two and three years; and thereafter it will be necessary to choose annually only one member to keep a full board. Thus, instead of having five new committee every year, each with the power to appoint a teacher, we shall have but one. Heretofore, there have been too frequent changes of teachers. Every new committee has had a friend to advance, and so the old teacher must be set aside, even though she were a most excellent one.

Some of my predecessors, on account of the small number of pupils, have recommended a change so that we might have fewer schools, and thus larger ones. The result of this movement would be, that we would need fewer teachers, could pay each more wages, (which ought to secure more experienced ones,) and by having larger classes, there would be more wholesome rivalry and interest among the pupils.

TABULAR VIEW OF SCHOOL RECORDS.

Name of School.	Terms.	Names of Prudential Committee.	Name of Teacher.	No. visits by parents and others.	Length of school in weeks.	Whole No. of Scholars.	No. in Reading.	No. in Spelling.	No. in Penmanship.	No. in Arithmetic.	No. in Geography.	No. in Grammar.	No. in History.	No. in Composition.	No. in Drawing.	No. in Vocal Music.	No. in Physiology.	No. in Algebra.	No. in Book-keeping.	No. in Civil Government.	Wages of teachers per month.	Miscellaneous Ex.	Money unexpended.	Expenses per scholar.
District Spring. No. 1.	Spring.		Miss Etta M. Churehill.	27	11	13	10	10	10	0	9	3	1	10							\$24 00	\$7 10	25	\$16 00
District Spring. No. 2.	Fall.	Samuel Smith Jr.	Miss Mary E. Eaton,	67	10	12	14	14	12	12	8	2	3	3	14						\$24 00	\$9 14		\$10 00
District Spring. No. 3.	Fall.	Walter A. Smith.	Miss Frances Noyes.	65	9	14	22	21	21	18	7	11	11	17	21	6	5	3	2		\$26 00	\$5 99		\$8 00
District Spring. No. 4.	Fall.	Hermion Noyes.	Miss Nora B. Greene.	22	9	12	8	8	6	6	5	3									\$24 00	\$16 60		\$16 00
District Spring. No. 5.	Fall.	J. W. Pettengill.	Miss Emma B. Gordon.	34	10	12	10	10	10	8	8	7	3								\$24 00	\$10 80	\$1 04	\$15 00
		John Little.																						

Number of scholars not less than five years, who have attended school not less than two weeks, 62.

Number of persons, between fourteen and twenty-one, unable to read and write, none.

Number of children reported by Selectmen, Male, 32; Female, 32.

Number of children, between five and fifteen, not attending school, 2.

Number of visits by Superintending School Committee, 22.

Money raised by law for the support of schools, \$549.50.

Literary Fund, Savings Bank tax, and part of R. R. Fund, \$160.30.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE E. EMERSON, Supt. School Committee.

ROLL OF HONOR.

The following pupils were neither absent nor tardy during a whole term:

DISTRICT NO. 1.

FIRST TERM.

Bennie W. Batchelder.
George H. Mason.
Leon B. Smith.
Nettie A. Mason.
May L. Smith.

SECOND TERM.

Bennie W. Batchelder.
Charlie C. Smith.
Nettie A. Mason.
Mattie F. Smith.
May L. Smith

DISTRICT NO. 2.

SECOND TERM.

Ada L. Whittaker.
Josie C. Whittaker.
George P. Gove.
Wilbur W. Smith.
Bertie E. Smith.
Arthur A. Smith

DISTRICT NO. 3.

FIRST TERM.

Blanche F. Calef.
Mary L. Noyes.
Freddie M. Knight.
Walter S. Noyes.
Josiah I. Wright.
Theodore H. Knight.
* Mary E. Butell.

SECOND TERM.

Frank I. Knight.
Harry I. Noyes.
Josiah I. Wright.
* Everett H. Poor.
* Mary E. Butell

* Tardy once.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

FIRST TERM.

Annie F. Calderwood.
Bertha L. Hoitt.
Wallace W. Goddard.

SECOND TERM.

Anna G. Hoitt.
Bertha L. Hoitt.
Annie F. Calderwood.

DISTRICT NO. 5.

FIRST TERM.

Augusta A. Birmingham.
Maggie L. Robertson.

FIRST TERM.

Annie R. Robertson.
George F. Damon.

New Hampshire State Library



3 4677 00230146 8